

Domain Levels Explained

A domain name is all the text that follows the first period ‘.’ in a host name. A host name is used to locate an entity on the Internet. A host name is part of a Uniform Resource Locator (URL), which is the address of a site or document on the Internet.

First-Level Domain

This would be the “.gov” established by the federal government.

Second-Level Domain

missouri.gov – primary domain

mo.gov – alias domain

Both “**missouri.gov**” and “**mo.gov**” are registered through the Government Domain Registration Services to the Missouri Office of Information Technology (OIT).

Third-Level Domain

This level will be appropriate for identifying the departments within Missouri State Government. The identification should consist of the department’s accepted abbreviation format.

Example: “**dnr.missouri.gov**”

Approval process: Department CIO to submit request to OIT in letter or e-mail format.

Fourth-Level Domain

This level will be used at the discretion of the departments for their department-sponsored programs.

Example: “**mostars.dhe.missouri.gov**”

Approval process: To be determined by each department for their internal use.

Implementation Timeframe

- ❑ The Missouri State Home Page (www.state.mo.us) will change to www.missouri.gov prior to December 31, 2002. Dual URLs will be maintained until December 31, 2003. (Revised 12/4/02: www.state.mo.us URL will be kept indefinitely.)
- ❑ Department requests for third level domain to be submitted to OIT by December 31, 2002.
- ❑ Department migrations to the new URL to be completed by December 31, 2003.